

PUBLIC SAFETY

GOAL Provide for public safety through a community-based approach that focuses on prevention of problems and a timely response.

The City provides trained staff and funding

MEASURE	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Target
Total Police Services Funding	\$15,613,828	\$22,763,553	\$24,139,113	\$23,997,564	\$25,608,694	N/A
Total Fire and Emergency Management Services Funding	\$15,480,119	\$18,119,738	\$18,137,506	\$19,628,244	\$19,997,924	N/A
Sworn Police FTE's (authorized) per 1,000 population	1.33	1.23	1.23	1.20	1.16	N/A
Paid Fire and EMS staffing per 1,000 population served	1.21	1.20	1.11	1.10	1.10	N/A

So that...

Emergency services provide timely responses

EMS response times under 5 minutes	53%	51%	52%	69%	51%	90%
Fire response times under 5.5 minutes	52%	52%	50%	62%	48%	90%
Building fires contained to area of origin	82%	84%	57%	56%	50%	60%

So that...

Citizens are prepared for an emergency and feel safe

Citizens have at least two working smoke detectors in their residence	93%	*	96%	*	97%	100%
Citizens are prepared for a three day emergency	70%	*	70%	*	62%	90%
Citizens feel safe walking in their neighborhoods after dark	78%	*	79%	*	82%	80%
Citizens feel safe walking in their neighborhoods during the day	98%	*	98%	*	97%	90%

So that...

All those who live, work and play in Kirkland are safe.

*Community survey occurs in even years

HOW DO WE MEASURE PUBLIC SAFETY?

Staffing and funding help the City to provide timely responses to emergencies. Response times and containing fires to the area of origin are proxy measures for good performance. The likelihood of a successful outcome is higher the faster emergency services can reach the site of the emergency. Factors that affect response times include the distances between a station and the incident, geographical barriers and traffic.

Measures from the Community Survey provide standard indicators of how citizens feel about public safety and how well they are prepared for emergencies.

HOW ARE WE DOING?

Staffing for the Police Department increased in 2014, while the Fire Department staffing stayed the same.

According to the 2014 Community Phone Survey, 97% of citizens have at least two working smoke detectors in their place of residence, a slight increase since 2012, and 62% of citizens state that they are prepared for a three day emergency, which is a decrease of 8% since 2012. The survey also revealed that 97% of citizens feel safe walking in their neighborhoods during the day and 82% feel safe walking in their neighborhoods at night which is the first year both categories reported figures above their targets.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

The Police Department continued its commitment to community-based policing utilizing high visibility strategies to reduce crime and maintain a high level of confidence in public safety. Although the Police Department relocated in May of 2014 they are still utilizing data based policing: where and when are crimes occurring, where are the collisions occurring and what is causing them. Focusing their attention on the data they are able to address the issues by strategically placing resources where needed.

The Kirkland Fire Department is a highly trained and well equipped organization, with the protection of our resident's lives, property and the environment as its focus. The Fire Department provides fire prevention inspections of commercial properties, fire related plan checks, fire investigations activities, emergency medical response and transport, fire suppression, hazardous material release responses, technical and specialized rescue and emergency management to the over 82,000 residents of Kirkland.

The Work Program for the Fire Department for 2014 focused on recommendations from the Fire Strategic Plan including:

- Completion of a Washington State Rating Bureau evaluation of the City's fire response capabilities
- Initiation of a standard of coverage study to better understand the Department's response standards and how and when they are meeting them
- Engagement of a consultant to resume the Finn Hill Fire Station siting study
- Validation of EMS Transport Fee revenue and related expenditures
- Implementation of new programs to improve Emergency Medical System response efficiency and service to people in crisis
- Completion of an energy audit at all fire stations
- Formalizing the Eastside Metro Training Group (EMTG) agreement

The addition of a community accessible meeting room allows a centrally located meeting place for non-profit organizations within the City.

The room is utilized for the Police Department and Municipal Court to host training. Usually the hosting city gets free admission to the training therefore allowing more people, more often, to train, all the while holding down costs.



Kirkland Justice Center

As of June 16, 2014, the new (physical) address for the Kirkland Police Department is at the Justice Center 11750 NE 118th Street.

The Kirkland Justice Center (KJC) locates the base for court, police, and corrections services and is centrally located in the Totem Lake Business District in order to serve all residents; including those who joined Kirkland in the 2011 annexation. The 102,000 square foot building was transformed from a furniture store into an essential public safety facility. The City purchased the building in 2010 and it was determined that renovating the building was less expensive than designing and constructing a new one. The City is seeking to achieve the Silver designation for the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED®) rating system developed by the U.S. Green Building Council. The building was also designed to create efficiencies within the Police Department and with the Municipal Court.

The building incorporates a 100% lead free firing range. The ability for officers to train on the firing range, at the Justice Center, 24 hours a day, increases proficiency, reduces overtime and allows the officers to remain in the City available for emergency response. The adjacencies created by housing the Municipal Court and the corrections facility in the same building reduces overtime and travel time of the corrections officers. Housing the offenders at the KJC allows the police department to control costs of incarceration but also allows the City to offer offenders other opportunities to succeed.